Book 3

The 10 Days of al-Karamah

Project Booklet

Under the Guidance of Moulana Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)

Please recite a Sūrah al-Fātiḥah for
the sponsors of this project booklet.

Important dates in Dhul Qaʿdah

1st	Wilādah of Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah (ʿa)
11th	Wilādah of Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa)
25th	Daḥw ul-Arḍ (when the Earth was spread)
29th	Shahādah of Imām Muḥammad at-Taqī (ʿa)

Visit **kisakids.org/collections** for more project booklets,
and go to **kisakids.org/donate** to help us continue our efforts.

Please recite a Sūrah al-Fātiḥah for the marḥūmīn of those
who contributed to this booklet.

INFORMATION AND INSPIRATION:

al-Islam.org
Islamic Insights
Al Hasnain.org
Blessed Names book 10: Why Was He Named Ar-Rida?

DIY Inspired: Paper Finger Puppet Craft for Kids
Cutesy Crafts: Caterpillar into Butterfly Craft for Kids
Little Family Fun: Pea-Pod Craft

بِسۡمِ اللّٰہِ الرَّحۡمٰنِ الرَّحِیۡمِ

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Salāmun ʿalaykum! May Allah (swt) bless you and your families.

Alḥamdulillāh, we have gained blessings in the holy month of Ramaḍān, but we always want to keep our souls spiritually charged. Now with the month of Dhul Qaʿdah, we can begin the Ten Days of al-Karāmah. These ten days are celebrated with the wilādah of two blessed personalities: Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa) (11th Dhul Qaʿdah), and his sister Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah (1st Dhul Qaʿdah).

Al-Karāmah is a very high level of connection to Allah (swt) that one can reach. We can understand *karāmah* as honor, dignity, and kindness that is achieved through *taqwā*, or God consciousness. This level of human spirituality is reached through sincerity and a conscious effort to achieve nearness to Allah (swt).

Taqwā is the standard which is given by Allah and described by maʿṣūmīn. It is the Godly boundaries that we need to stay within. If someone crosses these boundaries they have entered into *fasād*—corruption. The Qurʾān mentions many benefits for a life with *taqwā*: opening the doors of barakāt (blessings), giving us *furqān* (the tool to distinguish good and bad), finding the *tawfīq* of *tawbah*, forgiveness, ease in life, etc. We live in this world, but in every time, every situation, and every circumstance, we should live within these Godly boundaries that equals a life of *taqwā*. When we live our life with *taqwā*, we pave our path toward becoming *karīm*.

One of the personalities we remember during this week is Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah. She is a prime example of one who has reached this lofty status. She dedicated her entire life striving for this rank, and was thus bestowed the title of *Karīmah* by the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa).

Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah was the door to Imāmat, and because both hers and Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa) birthdays fall in Dhul Qaʿdah, we take this opportunity to understand and celebrate the ten days of *al-Karāmah*. She had a very special bond with her brother, Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa). It is a bond that cannot be broken by time or distance. When the Imām (ʿa) was forced to leave Medina, she became very sad. She decided to follow her brother to Iran, but passed away before she could meet him. This year, we encourage everyone to think about the bond with their siblings, or anyone that is like a sibling, and work to strengthen that bond. Whatever issues or problems there may be, make an effort to resolve them.

In honor of these blessed days, we are pleased to launch the annual 10 Days of al-Karāmah Project Booklet. This booklet includes five lesson plans that have been put together in collaboration with scholars and educators. We pray that through the lessons in this booklet, we are able to achieve high levels of *ikhlāṣ* (sincerity), *karāmah* (honor), and *ʿizzah* (dignity), inshāʾAllāh.

Jazākallāh khayr and best wishes,
Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)
Resident ʿĀlim of SABA Islamic Center

Time to Climb

Objective: Students will learn about the level of karāmah that we should try to reach.

Today marks the beginning of the ten days of al-Karāmah. During these days, we will be remembering two important personalities: Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa) and his sister, Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah. There are many lessons we can learn from their lives, but one of them is the concept of al-karāmah. This is a very high level of connection to Allah (swt) that one can reach. It is a connection that is made through love and obedience of our Creator. So how can we get to that point?

In one ḥadīth[1], Imām Mūsā al-Kāẓim (ʿa) says that we should try to divide our day into four parts:

1. A time for worship of Allah: any act we do with the intention of getting closer to Allah, from praying and giving charity to helping someone and cleaning our rooms.
2. A time for earning livelihood and other responsibilities, such as going to school or work.
3. A time for socializing with family and friends, who are sincere and would point out our [moral] weaknesses.
4. A time exclusively devoted for non-haram activities of enjoyment (it is with this part that we will be able to maintain the other three parts).

Based on this ḥadīth, we can see that there are multiple parts of our lives that we should focus on. As we maintain and balance these different parts, we get closer to Allah (swt) and that level of al-karāmah. Today, we are going to do an activity that will show us how to balance these times in our day.

1 Tuḥaf al-ʿUqūl, Pp. 409-410.

Parts of the Day

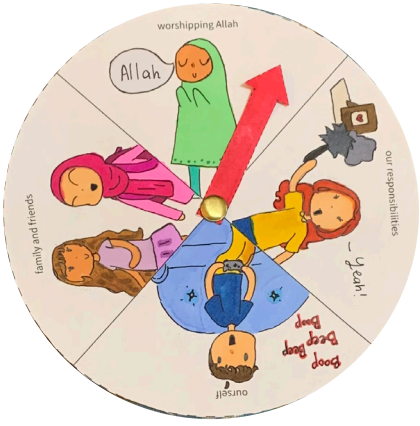
Suggested Ages: 5+

Time: 40 minutes

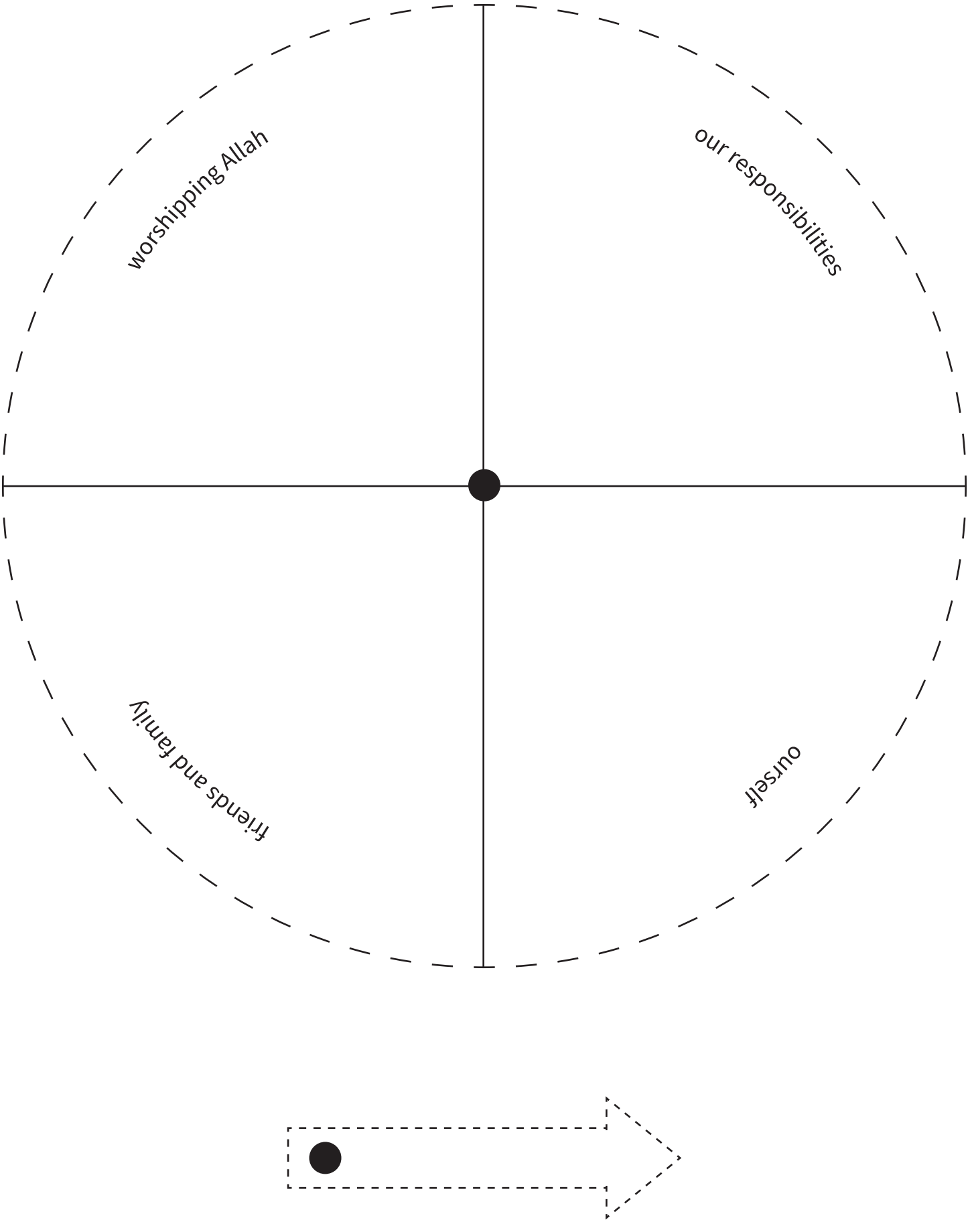
Materials:

- Clock template
- Crayons/colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue
- Butterfly clip (paper brad)

Procedure:



1. In each section, draw an example of how you can spend that part of your day.
2. Color and decorate the clock and arrow however you like.
3. Cut out the clock and arrow.
4. Carefully poke a hole through the solid black dots on the clock and arrow.
5. Place the arrow over the clock and align the holes.
6. Insert the butterfly clip through the holes and close the clip at the back.
7. Finish decorating the craft however you like.


worshipping Allah
our responsibilities
friends and family
ourself

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN PURPOSELY LEFT BLANK

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN PURPOSELY LEFT BLANK

Ziyārah of Sayyidah Maʿṣūmah

Objective: Students will learn about the ziyārah of Sayyidah Maʿṣūmah.

The Ten Days of al-Karāmah begin with the wilādah of Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah. She was the sister of our 8th Imām, Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa).

When we talk about these personalities, the concept of ziyārah often comes up. Ziyārah can mean two things:

1. visiting the holy shrine (burial place) of the maʿṣūm
2. verbally saying salām to them through the recitation of ziyārah.

Imām ar-Riḍā (ʿa) has said, "One who goes to her [Sayyidah Maʿṣūmah's] ziyārah will be rewarded with Paradise."[1] From this, we can see the importance of visiting her shrine through the high reward. Another virtue she has is that she is the only woman, after Sayyidah Fāṭimah az-Zahrāʾ (ʿa), to have a script of ziyārah dictated by an immaculate Imām. One line from this ziyārah states, "O Fāṭimah! Intercede for me in heaven, as you have an outstanding position from Allah (swt) for intercession." This part of the ziyārah shows her high status with Allah (swt), and the ability she has to help us get closer to Him.

The important thing to remember is making a connection with Sayyidah Maʿṣūmah. If we are able to physically visit her shrine, we should strive to do so as it can help strengthen the connection. However, we can have a strong connection from anywhere, so long as our hearts are connected to her. Today, we are going to do an activity that will show us how to make a connection to Sayyidah Maʿṣūmah, and any of the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa), from wherever we are, inshāʾAllāh.

1 Kāmil az-Zīyārah, Ch. 106, Ḥadīth #2.

Doing Ziyārah From Anywhere

Suggested Ages: 5+

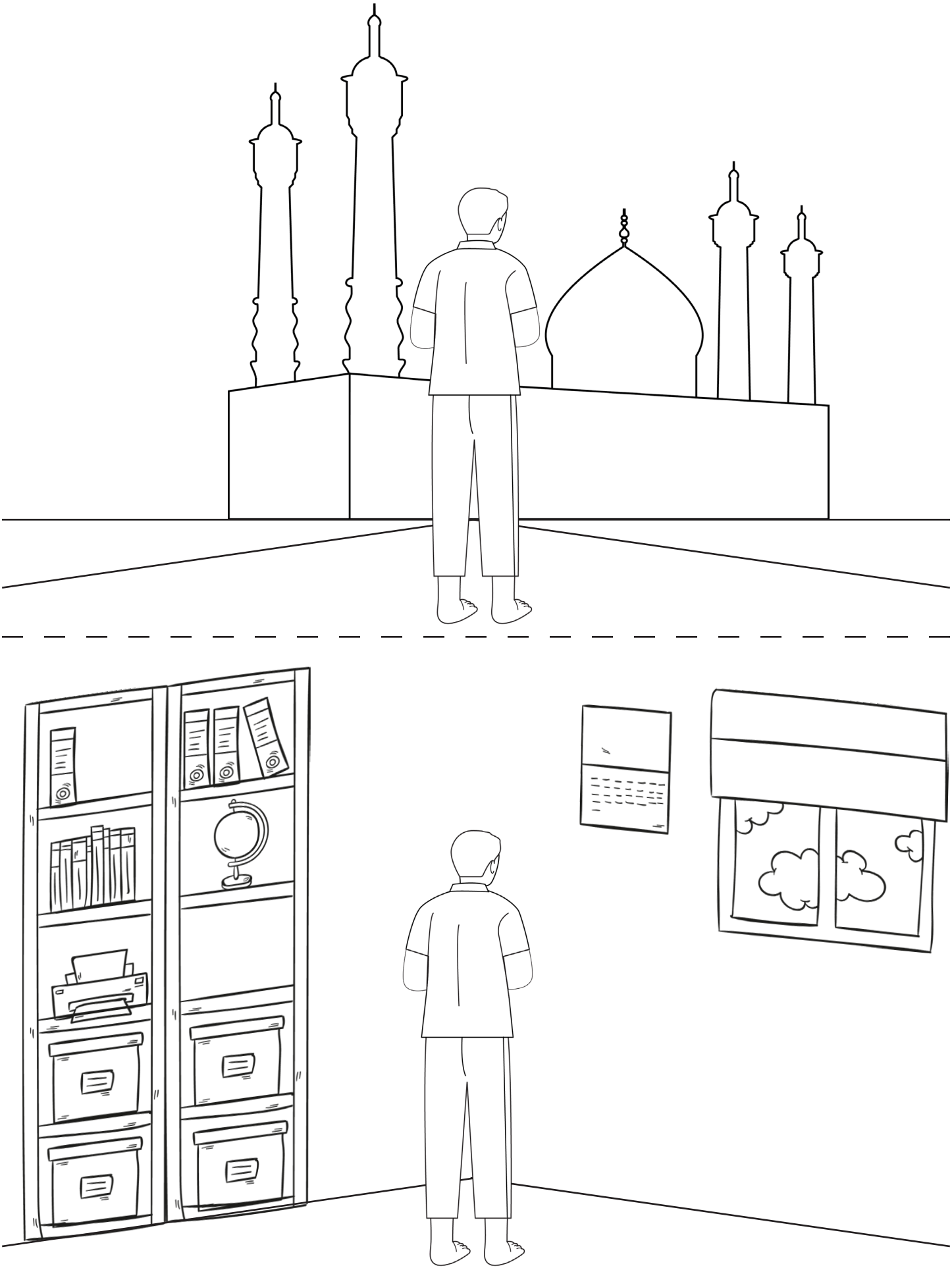
Time: 40 minutes

Materials:

- Ziyārah template
- Construction paper
- Crayons/colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue

Procedure:

1. Color and decorate the pictures in the template however you like.
2. Cut along the dotted line.
3. Fold each piece in half lengthwise. Make sure the pictures are on the inside.
4. Glue one half of one piece to one half of the other piece.
5. You should be able to fold over that piece to show either the person at home or the person at the shrine.
6. Glue that to the construction paper.
7. Finish decorating the craft however you like.



THIS PAGE HAS BEEN PURPOSELY LEFT BLANK

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN PURPOSELY LEFT BLANK

A Span of Four Fingers

Objective: Students will learn about the difference between what they hear and what they see.

In the previous lesson, we talked about Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah and some of her special virtues. Another important virtue was her exceptional knowledge. She was known for her love of knowledge and for spreading the teachings of Allah (swt). Even the city where she is buried, Qum, is a center for scholars, and many people study at the ḥawzah, or Islamic school, located inside her shrine.

When gaining knowledge, it is important to understand and comprehend what we are learning. It also includes knowing where we get our information from. In today's time, it is easy to spread information, but that information may not always be correct or accurate. Imām ʿAlī (ʿa) has said, "Verily, there is nothing between truth and falsehood but a span of four fingers…falsehood is to say 'I heard' while the truth is to say 'I saw.'"[1] This means that we shouldn't always just trust what we hear, and that it is better to say things after confirming.

There are some consequences of spreading wrong information, such as misleading others or hurting their feelings. One form of bullying is spreading rumors about people, especially if they are not true. So, we should watch not only what we say, but also what we hear. Today, we are going to make a craft that will remind us to watch what we say and where we get our information from.

1 Mizān al-Ḥikmah, Ḥadīth #1176

Finger Puppets

Suggested Ages: 5+

Time: 40 minutes

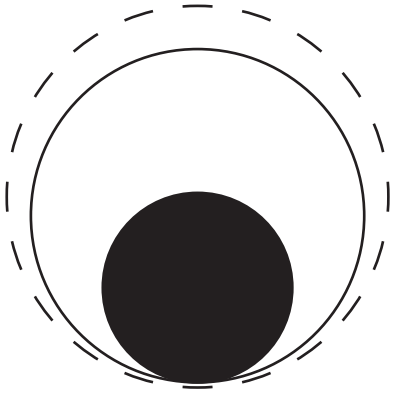
Materials:

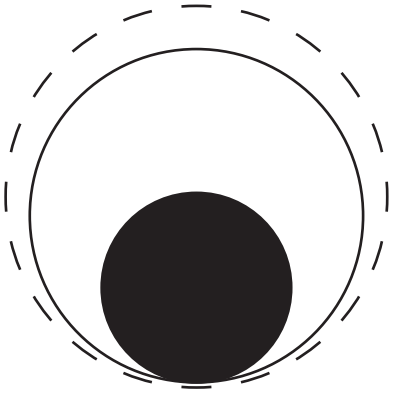
- Eyes template
- Crayons/colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue
- Pipe cleaners

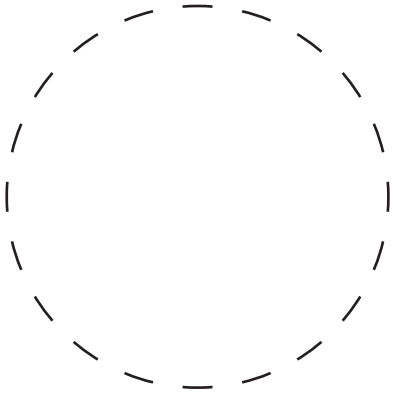
Procedure:

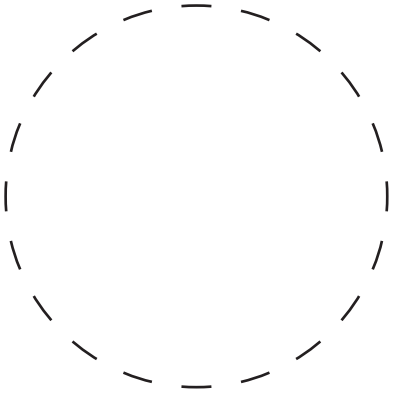
1. Color and decorate the eyes in the template however you like.
2. Cut out the eyes and the extra circles from the template (there are 2 pairs in the template, only one is needed).
3. Take the pipe cleaners and cut a small piece off.
4. Bend the piece of pipe cleaner into a "v" shape.
5. Glue one extra circle to the back of one eye picture, with one end of the pipe cleaner in between. Do the same on the other end.
6. Place the puppet in between your fingers like a ring and form your fingers into a mouth.

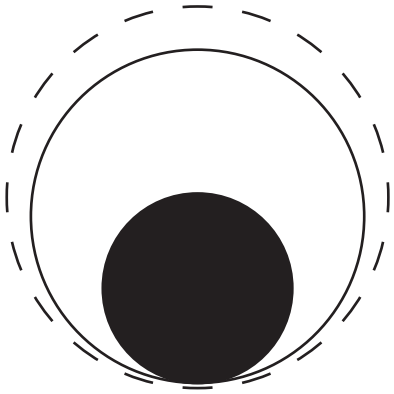
Craft from DIY Inspired: Paper Finger Puppet Craft for Kids

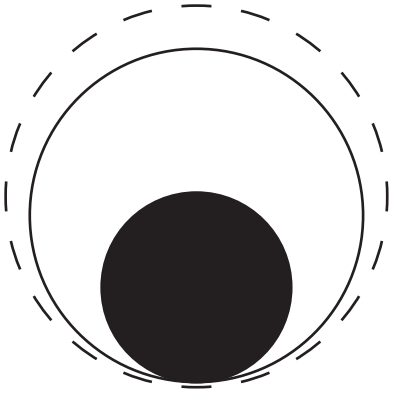


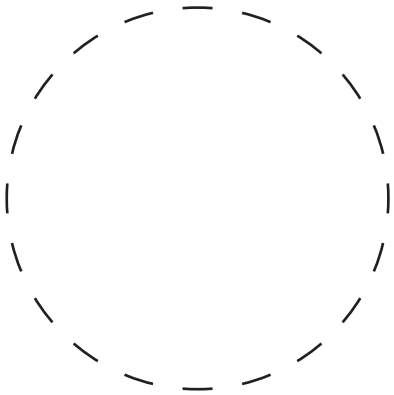


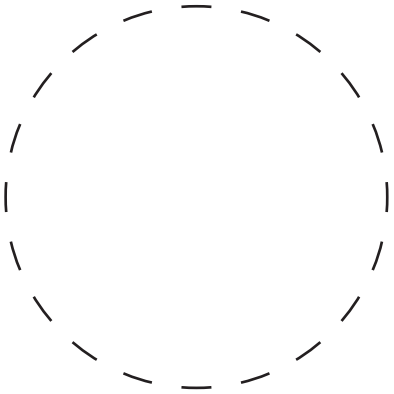












THIS PAGE HAS BEEN PURPOSELY LEFT BLANK

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN PURPOSELY LEFT BLANK

Ar-Riḍā (ʿa)

Objective: Students will learn about the title of our 8th Imām (ʿa).

The Ten Days of al-Karāmah end with the wilādah of our 8th Imām, Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa). His title, "ar-Riḍā," means the one who was content. This means that he was always content and happy with whatever Allah (swt) chose for him, and Allah (swt) was happy with him. The Noble Prophet (ṣ) and all the Imāms (ʿa) are also content and happy with what Allah (swt) has chosen for them, but Imām ar-Riḍā (ʿa) was given this title because, in addition to Allah (swt) being content and happy with him, his enemies were also content and happy with him.

One day, Maʾmūn wanted to embarrass the Imām (ʿa). He invited scholars from all over his empire to debate with the Imām (ʿa), thinking the Imām (ʿa) would lose. However, with the help of Allah (swt), Imām ar-Riḍā (ʿa) debated so well that everyone was in awe of his knowledge. All of the scholars left with smiles on their faces! As they left, they congratulated Maʾmūn on having such a wise advisor, which made Maʾmūn very happy and content with Imām ar-Riḍā (ʿa)!

It is important to remember to be content with what we have. When we are happy and content with what Allah (swt) gives us, we are more thankful. Today, we are going to make a craft that will show us how our contentment can change into gratitude.

Contentment Caterpillar

Suggested Ages: 5+

Time: 40 minutes

Materials:

- Caterpillar/butterfly template
- Crayons/colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue

Procedure:

1. Color and decorate the 3 pieces of the template however you like. There should be a caterpillar, a chrysalis, and a butterfly.
2. Cut out the 3 pieces of the template by cutting along the outer edges.
3. Take the chrysalis piece and fold along the 2 solid vertical lines.
4. Glue the back of the chrysalis piece to the back of the butterfly piece. When you fold the chrysalis closed, the butterfly should be inside.
5. Finish decorating however you like. You can put the caterpillar in the folded chrysalis pocket.

Craft from Cutesy Crafts: Caterpillar into Butterfly Craft for Kids

butterfly of gratitude

happy with what Allah has given

chrysalis

contentment caterpillar

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN PURPOSELY LEFT BLANK

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN PURPOSELY LEFT BLANK

Two Peas in a Pod

Objective: Students will learn about the love and similarities between siblings.

In these Ten Days of al-Karāmah, we talked about two great personalities, Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah and Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa). They were siblings who shared a special bond with each other. We often compare their relationship to the bond Sayyidah Zaynab had with her brother Imām Ḥusayn (ʿa). Besides being brother and sister, they both had some of the same qualities in common: their extensive knowledge, their kindness, their thankfulness, and their generosity.

Siblings are very important in Islam. The 4th Imām (ʿa) has spoken about the rights of one's brother [sibling], saying that they are "...your hand, your might, and your strength..."[1] We should always remember to help each other, and work together to do good deeds and obey Allah (swt).

We can take their example of this sibling bond and try to follow it with our own siblings or relatives. Today, we are going to make a craft that can help remind us of the similarities we have with our siblings or cousins, and help strengthen our bond with them.

1 Risālat al-Ḥuqūq by Imām Zayn al-ʿĀbidīn (ʿa)

Peas in a Pod Craft

Suggested Ages: 5+

Time: 40 minutes

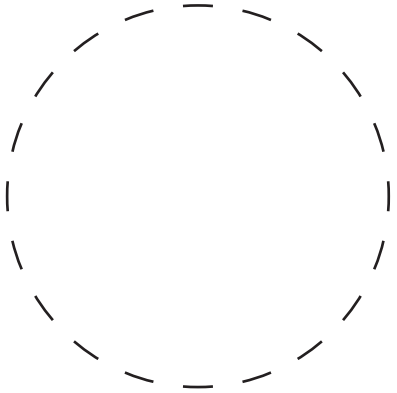
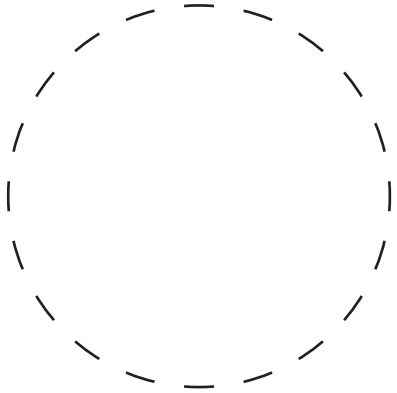
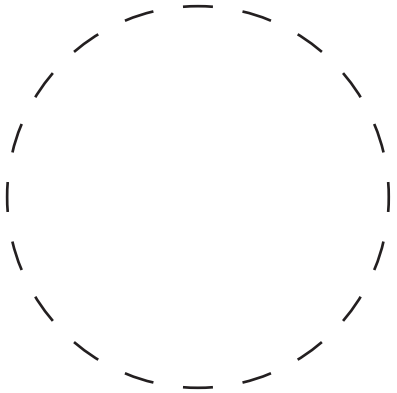
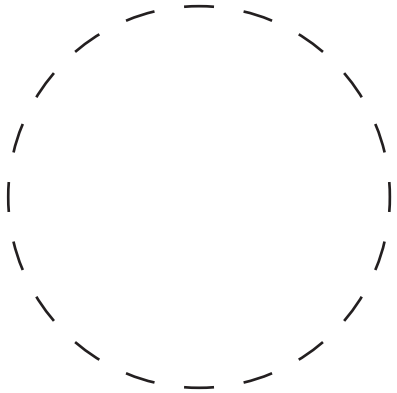
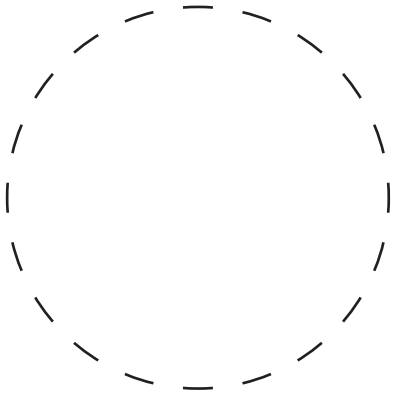
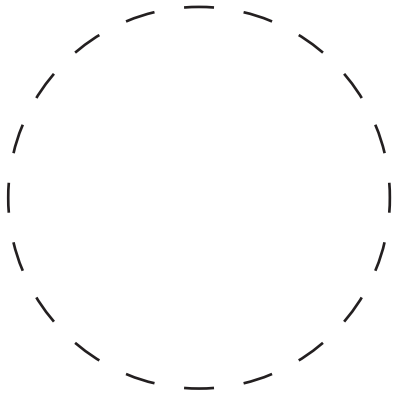
Materials:

- Peas in a pod template
- Green construction paper
- Blank paper (any color)
- Crayons/colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue
- Optional: green craft foam

Procedure:

1. Color and decorate the peas in the template however you like (there are 6, you don't have to use all of them).
2. Optional: you can make the peas out of green craft foam.
3. In each pea, write one way you are similar to your sibling or cousin.
4. Fold the green construction paper in half widthways. Draw a pea pod shape on one side.
5. With the paper still folded, cut out the pea pod. This should give you 2 pea pod shapes.
6. Glue one of the pea pods to the blank paper.
7. Now glue the other pea pod on top, but only on the edges. This should make a pocket.
8. Put the peas inside the pea pod pocket.

Craft inspired by Little Family Fun: Pea-Pod Craft

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN PURPOSELY LEFT BLANK

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN PURPOSELY LEFT BLANK

AL-KISA
FOUNDATION
UNDER THE CLOAK OF GUIDANCE AND MERCY